

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7971
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1707

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: CRITICISM OF KYPRIANOU INCREASES

REFS: (A) NICOSIA 1670 (B) NICOSIA 1697

SUMMARY. WITH CONTROVERSY AROUSED BY GREEK CYPRIOT
NEGOTIATOR TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS' SPEECH (REFTELS) STILL
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REVERBERATING, DEMOCRATIC RALLY LEADER GLAFCOS CLERIDES
ISSUED A DETAILED CONDEMNATION OF GOC'S HANDLING OF
CYPRUS PROBLEM AND OTHER ISSUES AT PRESS CONFERENCE
JULY 10. GROWING CRITICISM OF KYPRIANOU'S HANDLING
OF CYPRUS PROBLEM COULD INFLUENCE HIM TO SOFTEN HIS
ATTITUDE TOWARD A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. PAPADOPOULOS' SPEECH ELICITED COMMENT FROM GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN JULY 7 TO EFFECT THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE THE PRESIDENT DAMAGED THE NATIONAL CAUSE; THAT ALTHOUGH ANY CITIZEN HAD RIGHT TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS, PAPADOPOULOS, AS HOLDER OF RESPONSIBLE POSITION OF NEGOTIATOR, SHOULD "DEFINE HIS POSITION" IF HE DISAGREED WITH THE PRESIDENT; AND THAT PRESIDENT WAS FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS' LINE. SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT MAKARIOS' 1977 PROPOSALS HAD NOT BEEN WITHDRAWN BUT POINTED OUT THAT THEY HAD BEEN REJECTED BY THE TURKS.

2. IN REPLY TO SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT, PAPADOPOULOS DENIED HE HAD DAMAGED NATIONAL CAUSE AND INSISTED THAT IN HIS SPEECH HE HAD SIMPLY ANALYZED AND EXPLAINED THE LINE CHARTED BY MAKARIOS. PAPADOPOULOS SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE TO SERVE AS NEGOTIATOR AS LONG AS NATIONAL COUNCIL ADHERED TO MAKARIOS LINE. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN THEN ISSUED SECOND STATEMENT ENPHASIZING THAT PAPADOPOULOS HAD NOT SAID WHETHER HE DISAGREED WITH PRESIDENT, WHO, IN ANY CASE, WOULD GIVE HIS OWN EXEGESIS OF THE MAKARIOS LINE IN MAJOR SPEECHES JULY 20 AND AUGUST 3.

3. IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, CLERIDES CRITICIZED GOC FOR ASSERTING THAT IT HAD "GAINED GROUND" IN DEALING WITH CYPRUS PROBLEM AND GAVE NINE EXAMPLES, CONFIDENTIAL

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INCLUDING U.S. INTENTION TO LIFT ARMS EMBARGO, OF AREAS IN WHICH GOC HAD LOST GROUND. CLERIDES ACCUSED GOVERNMENT OF DIPLOMATIC ERRORS AND HAVING NO CONCRETE POLICY ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. HE CHARGED POST-MAKARIOS GOVERNMENT WITH UNDERMINING THE ARCHBISHOP'S 1977 PROPOSALS AND FAILING TO GRASP THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MAKARIOS-DENKTASH AGREEMENT. CLERIDES ALSO ACCUSED KYPRIANOU GOVERNMENT OF PURSUING DOMESTIC POLICIES LEADING TO DISUNITY IN INTERNAL FRONT.

4. COMMENT. THE UNITY WHICH PERMITTED KYPRIANOU TO ASSUME PRESIDENCY UNOPPOSED APPEARS TO BE BREAKING DOWN. INSISTENCE BY CLERIDES, PAPADOPOULOS, AND, TO LESSER DEGREE, THE COMMUNIST (AKEL) PARTY THAT MORE EMPHASIS BE GIVEN TO INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS THAN TO INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM LEAVES KYPRIANOU AND HIS DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) WITH ONLY ONE ALLY ON THIS ISSUE -- THE SMALL SOCIALIST (EDEK) PARTY. HOWEVER, EDEK HAS SPLIT SHARPLY WITH KYPRIANOU ON OTHER ISSUES. NEVERTHELESS, KYPRIANOU WILL BE PRESIDENT UNTIL 1983, BARRING UNFORSEEN DEVELOPMENTS, AND DP WILL HOLD MAJORITY IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UNTIL 1981 AT LEAST;THUS HE

PROBABLY WILL BE SETTING GOC'S POLICIES FOR SOME
TIME YET. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT INCREASING
CRITICISM MIGHT INFLUENCE HIM TOWARD A MORE POSITIVE
ATTITUDE WITH REGARD TO A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE
CYPRUS PROBLEM. (IT IS WORTH NOTING, HOWEVER, THAT NONE
OF KYPRIANOU'S CRITICS HAVE CALLED FOR RESUMPTION OF
TALKS BASED ON CURRENT TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS.)
HIS JULY 20 SPEECH SHOULD GIVE AN INDICATION OF WHETHER
AND WHICH WAY HE WILL MOVE.
STONE

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Message Attributes

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